

Declaration For U.S. Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled
(Insert Title) WATER ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND ABSORBENT ARTICLE USING SAME

the specification of which

(Check one of blocks 1, 2, or 3. See note A on back of this page)

1. ☐ is attached hereto.
2. ☒ was filed on July 26, 2001 as
International PCT Application Serial No. PCT/JP01/06428
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)
3. ☐ was filed on _____ as
U.S. Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application for which priority is claimed:

| (List prior foreign applications. See note B on back of this page) | (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | Priority Claimed |
|--|--------------|-----------|------------------------|---|
| | P2000-228767 | Japan | 28/07/2000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | P2001-092573 | Japan | 28/03/2001 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year Filed) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

(See note C on back of this page)

☐ See attached list for additional prior foreign applications

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| (List Prior U.S. Applications) | (Application Serial Number) | (Filing Date) | (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---|
| 20- | (Application Serial Number) | (Filing Date) | (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned) |

And I hereby appoint as principal Attorneys James E. Armstrong, III, Reg. No. 18,366; William F. Westerman, Reg. No. 29,988; Ken-Ichi Hattori, Reg. No. 32,861; John R. Pegan, Reg. No. 18,069; William G. Kratz, Jr., Reg. No. 22,631; Le-Nhung McLeland, Reg. No. 31,541; James P. Welch, Reg. No. 17,379; Ronald F. Naughton, Reg. No. 24,616; Albert Tockman, Reg. No. 19,722; J. Herbert O'Toole, Reg. No. 31,404; Mel R. Quintos, Reg. No. 31,898; Michael J. Foycik, Jr., Reg. No. 30,928; Mary E. Gormley, Reg. No. 34,409; James C. Lydon, Reg. No. 30,082; Vivian P. Kafalenos, Reg. No. 32,903; Donald W. Hanson, Reg. No. 27,133; Stephen G. Adrian, Reg. No. 32,878; Gregory R. Muir, Reg. No. 35,293; William L. Brooks, Reg. No. 34,129; Joseph J. Zito, Reg. No. 32,076; Stephen B. Parker, Reg. No. P-36,631.

Please direct all communications to the following address:

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930 Fax: (202) 887-0357

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, the United States Code, § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

(See note D on back of this page)

Full name of sole or first inventor Hisakazu Tanaka

Inventor's signature Hisakazu Tanaka January 21, 2002

Residence Osaka, Japan Date

Citizenship Japan

Post Office Address 3-3-3-202, Hutta-cho, Izumiotsu-shi, Osaka, Japan

2-00

Full name of second joint inventor, if any Toshiya Kato
Inventor's signature Toshiya Kato January 21, 2002
Residence Osaka, Japan J P X Date
Citizenship Japan
Post Office Address 3-114-3-602, Mozuumekita-cho, Sakai-shi, Osaka, Japan

3-00

Full name of third joint inventor, if any Shigeki Ideguchi
Inventor's signature Shigeki Ideguchi January 21, 2002
Residence Osaka, Japan J P X Date
Citizenship Japan
Post Office Address 11-23-102, Shinonome-cho, Izumiotsu-shi, Osaka, Japan

4-00

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any Hideyuki Ishizu
Inventor's signature Hideyuki Ishizu January 21, 2002
Residence Osaka, Japan J P X Date
Citizenship Japan
Post Office Address 4-23-8, Wake-cho, Izumi-shi, Osaka, Japan

5-00

Full name of fifth joint inventor, if any Yoshiki Hasegawa
Inventor's signature Yoshiki Hasegawa January 21, 2002
Residence Hyogo-ken, Japan J P X Date
Citizenship Japan
Post Office Address 2-26-503, Ketsuzen-cho, Nishinomiya-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

Full name of sixth joint inventor, if any _____
Inventor's signature _____ Date _____
Residence _____
Citizenship _____
Post Office Address _____

Full name of seventh joint inventor, if any _____
Inventor's signature _____ Date _____
Residence _____
Citizenship _____
Post Office Address _____

Full name of eighth joint inventor, if any _____
Inventor's signature _____ Date _____
Residence _____
Citizenship _____
Post Office Address _____